Celebrate **NBC's 80th Anniversary** at the 31st Friends of Old-Time Radio Annual Convention (**Featuring Eddie Cantor**) October 19-22, 2006 Holiday Inn North, Newark, NJ



The 3rd Revised Ultimate History of Network

Radio Programming and Guide to All Circulating Shows

written by Jay Hickerson, October, 2005 Editor of Hello Again

540-page reference book listing over 6000 network, regional, local and syndicated radio programs. (Soft cover and spiral bound). This information was first presented in this combined format in 1992 with separate publications issued in 1986.

Traces each program by giving broadcast dates, sponsors, network and air time. Often a brief description with one or two cast members is given. The main purpose, however, is to trace each program by showing when it was on the air.

Includes theme music titles if known. <u>Most complete source</u> available.

<u>Lists ALL shows available to collectors. Exact dates and sources are mentioned in most cases.</u>

Includes All Information AS OF OCTOBER 1, 2006 including Supplement #1

Cost: \$52 plus \$4 postage and handling

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SPECIAL GUESTS

ARTHUR ANDERSON - Mercury Theater on the Air; Let's Pretend **BILL BRITTEN - TV Host DON BUKA** – Let's Pretend CLIFF CARPENTER - County Seat, Prairie Folk DON CICCONE - (singer, composer); singer with the Critters and then the Four Seasons in the 1970's LARRY CONROY - Count of Monte Cristo; Voiceover Coach ALEC CUMMING - Ghost writer for NBC 75th anniversary Book JEFF DAVID - Theater 5 (TV) Robot on Buck Rogers ROBERT EASTON - Gunsmoke BARRY FARBER - Radio talk show host SONNY FOX - TV Host; Candid Microphone on JOE FRANKLIN - Joe Franklin Radio and TV Show in New York DAVID NOEL FREEDMAN - son of radio writer (Eddie Cantor) David Freedman MICKEY FREEMAN - (TV) Phil Silvers Show MICHAEL GWYNNE - Drummer, DJ, Actor (Movie) Payday, Others BILL HERZ - Mercury Theater (Last surviving member of War of the Worlds) CELESTE HOLM - Academy Award winning actress, Broadway - Oklahoma PAT HOSLEY - A Brighter Day WILL HUTCHINS - (TV) Blondie; Sugarfoot **ELAINE HYMAN** – The Lone Ranger SIMON JONES - British Actor; Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy; also TV, movies, theater PEGGY KING - Singer, Broadway, Television RUTH LAST - Let's Pretend, Quiet Please (Television, movies, writer) KAY LINAKER (KATE PHILLIPS) Movie Actress, writer for radio ROD McBRIEN - composer, singer CHUCK McCANN - Comedian, actor MALACHY McCOURT - Movies, TV, radio talk show host SHIRLEY MITCHELL - The Great Gildersleeve **DICK MONDA** – Singer, actor (Eddie Cantor as boy in E C Story) CORINNE ORR - Theater Five; CBS Radio Mystery

Theater; (TV) voices for Speed Racer (Trixie and

BILL OWEN - (Announcer for Mutual)

BETSY PALMER - TV - I've Got a Secret CYNTHIA PEPPER - (TV) My Three Sons BOBBY RAMSEN - Let's Pretend, Dick Tracy (TV and movie actor; Comedian) ROSEMARY RICE - Archie Andrews: Let's Pretend; (TV) I Remember Mama LYNNE ROGERS - The Guiding Light RICK ROGERS - Impressionist, singer (Eddie JEAN ROUVEROL - One Man's Family SOUPY SALES – TV Personality; Radio – WXYZ (Detroit) LESLIE SHREVE – Actor, Activist; television. Movies, voiceovers HAL STONE - Jughead in Archie Andrews; Author ALLEN SWIFT - Singer, writer, actor; host of the Popeye Show on television NAÑ WARREN - Let's Pretend, Eddie Cantor CRAIG WICHMAN - All Media; Director of Quicksilver Radio Theater

CHRISTINA BRITTON CONROY – daughter of Barbara Britton

JANET CANTOR GARI – Eddie Cantor's Daughter

BRIAN GARI – Eddie Cantor's grandson

MARLA CANTOR – Daughter of Charlie Cantor

AUTHORS

ARTHUR ANDERSON – Let's Pretend
ALFRED BALK – The Rise of Radio
MICHAEL HAYDE – Dragnet
JACK FRENCH – Private Eyelashes
MARTIN GRAMS, JR. – various books
BOBB LYNES - Radio's Golden Age
BILL OWEN – coauthor of the Big Broadcast
GREGG OPPENHEIMER (with father Jess) - Lucille
Ball
DAVE SIEGEL AND SUSAN SIEGEL – Several
Books
MEL SIMONS – Radio Trivia Book with Pictures;
Television Trivia Book
HAL STONE – Archie Andrews
JIM WIDNER – Science Fiction books, logs
GARY YOGGY – Various books

This Convention is dedicated to George Balzer, Fred Collins, Gil Mack, Bill Murtough, Larry Robinson, Frank Thomas, Rhoda Williams

SCHEDULE - 2006

All programs in the Lenox/Tiffany Rooms; All re-creations in the Dresden/Lenox/Tiffany Rooms

Readings, meetings in the Ascot Room

Rehearsals in the Dresden Room (All rehearsals are closed unless specified otherwise)

Dealers in Conference and Waterford Rooms

Wednesday: Dealers tables and possibly sound equipment set up at night Complimentary Wine and cheese from 6 pm to 10 pm.

Thursday: The sound equipment and the stage will be set up. Dealers will be open at 9 am.

9:00 - 5:30	Dealers
12:45 – 1:45 Oppenheimer	"Dancing on the Air; The Packard Hour" starring Fred Astaire (Gregg
2:00 - 3:00	One on One with Cliff Carpenter (Arthur Anderson)
3:15 - 4:15	Noel Freedman and Eddie Cantor (Brian Gari)
4:30 - 5:30	Author's Panel with Brian Gari, Susan Siegel, David Siegel, Alfred Balk
(Derek Tague	
5:30 - 8:00	Cocktails and Dinner; raffle
8:00 - 8:45	Those Were the Days Radio Players present Ellery Queen; with Celeste Holm
9:00 - 9:45	Bill Nadel Directs a Salute to Francis Durbridge, Paul Temple and the BBC
	nes, Craig Wichman and others
10:00 - 10:45	Original Script (Curse of the Banshee) with Cliff Carpenter, Jean Rouverol,
Leslie Shreve,	(Arthur Anderson);

Friday Morning and Afternoon

9:00 - 5:30	Dealers
8:45 - 9:30 9:45 - 10;30 10:45 - 11:30	OTR quiz (Fred Berney) Jack French panel; From Novel to Network; OTR shows originating in books
11:45 - 12:45	Baseball on Radio (Ken Stockinger) Children's Shows on radio and TV (Guests; Sonny Fox; Allen Swift, Bill Warren, Chuck McCann, Soupy Sales) (George Downes)
1:00 - 1:45 2:00 - 3:00	Edward R Murrow: The Radio Years (Gary Yoggy) History of NBC (Michael Biel and others including Alec Cumming)
3:15 - 4:30	Radio Comedians (Derek Tague, Mary Lou Wallace with guests; those being : Malachy McCourt; Chuck McCann; Soupy Sales, Mickey Freeman, Bobby
Ramsen, Betsy	Palmer, Robert Easton
4:45 – 5:30 by Steve Lewi	(Gotham Radio Players present "The Great Gunns," 1941 comedy series; dir. s; prod. by Max Schmid

Friday Evening

5:30 - 7:45	Cocktails and Dinner, raffle
8:00 - 8:30	(Re-creation) Gregg Oppenheimer Directs "My Favorite Husband" with
Shirley Mitch	nell; Corinne Orr; Donald Buka; Michael Gwynne; Elaine Hyman; Bill Owen;
8:50 - 9:20	Gary Yoggy Directs "I Remember Mama;" - A Song of Love; with
Rosemary Ric	
9:40 - 10:10	Anthony Tollin Directs an episode of Gunsmoke, "The Cabin" written by
John Meston:	with Jeff David, Robert Faston, Elaine Hyman, Will Hutchins

Saturday Morning and Afternoon

9:00 - 3:00	Dealers
9:00 - 9:45	Candid Microphone with Sonny Fox
10:00 - 10:45	Norman Corwin Tribute (Dave Zwengler, Randy Larson, others)
11:00 - 11:45	One on One with Celeste Holm (Brian Gari)
12:00 - 12:45	Dave Warren Players "Duffy's Tavern"
1:00 - 1:45	Humorous Look at Dragnet (Michael Hayde, Derek Tague)

1:30-2:30 Sound effects artists David Shinn and Sue Zizza of the National Audio Theatre Festivals present a hands-on sfx demonstration in the **Sutton Room**

2:00 - 3:00	Joe Franklin show with possible guests (Barry Farber; Malachy
McCourt,	Celeste Holm, Dick Monda

3:15 - 4:30 Singers, musicians and Big Bands, 10th annual (Stu Weiss, Brian Gari) with possible guests; Don Ciccone; Peggy King; Rod McBrien

4:30 – 5:15 Re-creation: **Eddie Cantor** (directed by Gary Yoggy) with Rick Rogers, Dick Monda, Nan Warren

Saturday Evening

5:30 – 8:30 Cocktails and Dinner, raffle, awards,

8:30 – 9:30 (Re-creation) **Mercury Theater; Julius Caesar** with Jeff David, Craig Wichman, Donald Buka, Larry Conroy, Cliff Carpenter, Simon Jones, Bill Herz (Directed by Arthur Anderson)

9:45 - 10:30 (Re-creation) **Don Ramlow** Directs an episode of Suspense with Robert Easton;

Sunday Morning

7:00 - 9:30 Breakfast in the restaurant 9:30 - 11:00 Informal Panel in the Dresden Room

OTHER INFORMATION

Ascot Room will be available much of the time from Thursday through Saturday night. It should be used for interviews, meetings and readings.

- 1. No smoking in convention area and any other place on main floor. This means NO SMOKING in halls and near registration area.
- 2. Do not interview in hallways and please do not congest the registration area. Interviews are to be held in the Ascot room mentioned above.
- 3. Interviews and autographs are NOT to be gotten in the workshop rooms after the workshops. Use Ascot Room. We must get ready for the next workshop.
- 4. Complimentary coffee and muffins will be available early Thursday Saturday mornings.
- 5. All of the sessions are being video recorded by Satellite Media Production. You may order them as a complete set or by individual sessions. Please contact Fred Berney at Satellite Media Production, P.O. Box 638, Walkersville, MD 21793-0638. Phone 800-747-0856. Email: fsberney@verizon.net.
- 6. You can get information on the Friends of Old-time Radio Convention on our Web Site: FOTR Web site: http://www.fotr.net

COMMITTEE AND WORKSHOP LEADERS

GENERAL CHAIRMAN:

PROGRAM AND RE-CREATION DIRECTORS:

thony Tollin, Gary Yoggy, Bill Nadel, Don Ramlow, Max Schmid, Steve Lewis, Barbara

Watkins, Randy Larson, Gregg Oppenheimer

MUSIC COORDINATOR

PUBLICITY: WEB SITE

CONVENTION GUEST COORDINATORS

RIDE COORDINATOR SOUND ENGINEER

SOUND EFFECTS

Lewis, Bill Nadel

Jay Hickerson

Jack French, Arthur Anderson, An-

Ed Clute

Sean Dougherty, Charles Summers

Jeff and Walt Muller

Bill Nadel Bill Siudmak

Bart Curtis, Anthony Tollin, Steve

ALL OTHERS INCLUDING PANEL LEADERS:

Dave and Susan Siegel

Bob Burchett Jack French

Derek Tague Fred Berney Andy Blatt

Ken Stockinger Fred Shay

George Downes. Stu Weiss Joan Beck

Paul Mellos Michael Hayde Dave Zwengler

Sue Zizza

Karen Hickerson Alice Anderson Ken Piletic Arlene Maher Gregg Oppenheimer

Sonny Fox Michael Biel Lora Palmer Brian Gari Tom Powers David Shinn Mary Lou Wallace Judi Reynolds

REMINISCING

Old-time radio buffs have been honoring the radio stars of yesteryear annually since 1971, when our first old-time radio convention was held. The popularity of the conventions has grown steadily over the past 30 years. The first convention hosted 4 special guests. This year we are honoring over 30 actors, actresses, writers, producers, directors and technicians from the East and West Coasts who made the age of radio a truly golden era. What better way to pay tribute to all our guests than to meet them in person at this, our 31st annual convention of the **FRIENDS OF OLD-TIME RADIO**, and express the enjoyment their performances brought and still bring to us.

The FRIENDS OF OLD-TIME RADIO, Inc. is a group of fans and collectors who meet once a year for this

non-profit convention. All monies collected are used for hotel, transportation and other convention costs.

The Allen Rockford Award was established in 1979 following the death of Allen Rockford at the age of 35 on March 29. Allen was coeditor with Don Richardson of Nostalgia Radio News, an excellent monthly OTR publication. The publication started when Allen started his coverage of stations in central New York and Canada carrying Old-time radio. This led to Nostalgia Radio News. Allen was active in putting early radio on central New York stations and carried his own show called Sounds of Yesterday for several years on WRVO-FM in Oswego. He was an announcer and newscaster for WONO in Syracuse for many years. With Don Richardson, Allen also ran Double-R-Radio, a business specializing in tapes and recordings of old-time radio shows. Allen was an authority on early radio and constantly helped anyone who needed it.

RECIPIENTS ALLEN ROCKFORD AWARD

1979 1980	Ken Piletic Charles Ingersoll	1992	Max Schmid Gary Yoggy	2001	Steve Lewis Stu Weiss
1900	John Dunning	1993	Jack French		Michael Henry
1981	Charles Stumpf	1,,,,	Larry and John Gassma	an	Derek Tague
1982	Roger Hill	1994	Bill Bragg	2002	Mitchell Weisberg
1983	Ray Stanich		David Siegel		Art Pierce
1984	Jim Snyder	1995	Joe Webb	2003	Dave Zwengler
	Bob Burnham		Art Schreiber		Lora Palmer
1985	Dick Osgood		Bobb Lynes		Sean Dougherty
1986	Frank Bresee	1996	Bill Nadel	2004	Brian Gari
1987	SPERDVAC		Don Ramlow		Alice Anderson
1988	Barbara Watkins, Barry Hill	1997	Ed Clute		Eva Weisberg
1989	Bob Burchett,		Michael Sprague		Ellen and Fred Berney
	Terry Salomonson	1998	Chuck Schaden	2005	Robert Newman
1990	Don Aston, Dave Warren	1999	Charles Summers		Walt Mitchell
1991	Tom Monroe, Anthony Tollin	2000	Nana Clute		Mary Lou Wallace
	•		Mary Ramlow		•
			Steve Hiss		

FLORENCE WILLIAMS AWARD

1979	Raymond E. Johnson	1989	Florence Williams	1997	Rosemary Rice, Bob Mott
	Rosa Rio		Dwight Weist	1998	Dick Beals, Ted Reid
1980	Bob Prescott Jr.		Joe Franklin	1999	Pat Hosley
	Pete Prescott	1990	Margot Stevenson	2000	Will Hutchins
1981	Mike Warren		George Ansbro	2001	Ruth Last
1982	(None)	1991	Fran Carlon	2002	Bill Owen
1983	Arthur Anderson		Ray Erlenborn	2003	Hal Stone
	Fran Striker Jr.		Barney Beck	2004	Lynne Rogers
1984	Don Richardson	1992	Ken Roberts	2005	Beverly Washburn
	Jackson Beck		Pet Lynch		regard of the Property of the English
1985	Ken Ross	1993	Lon Člark		
	Terry Ross		Adele Ronson		
	Mrs. Brace Beemer	1994	Bob Dryden		
	Jay Hickerson		Arthur Tracy		
1986	Max Schmid	1995	Earl George		
1987	Sidney Slon		Bob Hastings		
	Anthony Tollin	1996	Fred Foy		
1988	Bob Steele, Ezra Stone		Abby Lewis		
			Sybil Trent		

Ray Stanich Award

Ron Lackmann (1996); Frank Buxton, Bill Owen, Tom DeLong (1997); John Dunning (1998); Martin Grams, Jr.(1999); Gary Yoggy (2000), Anthony Tollin,(2001); Jim Cox, Jay Hickerson (2002); Howard Blue (2003); Jack French (2004); Elizabeth McLeod (2005)

DONATIONS OVER THE YEARS

Frank Nelson Scholarship Fund	Society for Singers
Veteran's Bedside Network	Stephanie Joyce Kahn Foundation
Thousand Oaks Library	The Actor's Fund
Episcopal Actor's Guild	Billy Rose Collection, N Y Public Library
Kate Smith Foundation	Heller Memorial Foundation of AFTRA
Broadcast Pioneers Library	Yesterday USA
WBAI	Old-time Radio Digest (Internet)
Museum of Television and Radio	American Red Cross
Society of Broadcast Engineers	

WINNERS OF THE SCRIPT WRITING CONTEST

1995: Michael Giorgio "The Whistler"...1996; Jim Nixon "The Lone Ranger" called "The Wizard"...1997; Edgar Russell III "Kiss From a Little Old Lady"...1998; Donald Dortmund "Our Miss Brooks"...1999; Arlene Osborne "The Shadow"...2000; Michael Leannah "Dragnet" parody...2001; K E Bibeau "Fu Manchu"...2002; Becky Beach and John Bell "War of the Worlds" Parody ...2003; Jim Cort "Maitland at Large"...2004; Edgar Russell III "Triumph and Tragedy in the Air"...2005: Michael Leannah "The Lone Ranger; Mother Comes to Visit...2006: Charles Russell "The Curse of the Banshee;" 2007: Raymond Fast "Who Killed the Silver Syclone"

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

2005

The Friends of Old-time Radio held its 30th Annual Convention from October 20 - 23, 2005 at the Holiday Inn, Newark, New Jersey. Celebrities who received awards were: Shirley Bell (in absentia), Larry Conroy, Sonny Curtis, Jeff David, Mickey Freeman, Susan Gordon, Michael Gwynne, William Herz, Jr., Simon Jones, Noel Neill, Paul O'Keefe, David Parker and Jon Provost. Other celebrities present were Arthur Anderson, George Ansbro, Margot Avery, Don Buka, Cliff Carpenter, Fred Foy, Joe Franklin, Will Hutchins, Elaine Hyman, Ruth Last, Jimmy Lydon, Al Markim, Corinne Orr, Bill Owen, Cynthia Pepper, Bobby Ramsen, Elliott Reid, Rosemary Rice, Larry Robinson, Lynne Rogers, Jean Rouverol, Soupy Sales, Margot Stevenson, Hal Stone, Frank Thomas, Beverly Washburn, Craig Wichman. The guests socialized with fans, participated in panels and workshops and recreated 13 radio shows.

The convention began Wednesday Evening with complementary Wine and Cheese and informal visiting. Thursday Morning the dealers opened at 9 am. There were four afternoon panels: An All-star Authors' Panel; Brian Gari and Derek Tague showing Eddie Cantor in Cartoons; Max Schmid Interviews Eugene Bergmann, author of a recent Jean Shepherd book; Tom Powers and his group doing a reading of Buck Rogers; We then had cocktails and dinner. 76 fans attended during the day. 186 fans and guests attended in the evening. Arthur Anderson directed Michael Leannah's original script "The Lone Ranger's Mother," a hilarious story. Bill Nadel then directed "Light of the World" with Lynne Rogers; Anthony Tollin directed Frank Thomas and Al Markim in a Tom Corbett episode; "Those Were the Days Players" presented "Damon Runyon Theater."

Friday began at 9:00 with the opening of the dealers room. Fifty-two dealers' tables were active during the convention. 277 people attended dinner with another 83 in the afternoon. Workshops and panels included the following: A Game Show with Fred Berney; George Downes gave a panel with child Actors; Anthony Tollin presented 75 years of the Shadow; Jeff David showed a documentary of Jackson Beck; Jack French gave a discussion of Syndicated shows; Simon Jones then gave a very funny talk about his experiences; The Comedy panel followed honoring Soupy Sales including pie throwing; The Dave Warren Players re-created "A Date With Judy."

On Friday evening we had 3 programs: Christina Britton Conroy, daughter of Barbara Britton starred in "Mr. and Mrs. North;" The first of 2 Superman episodes with Noel Neill was re-created; Anthony Tollin then directed an episode of the Shadow written by Sidney Slon with Jeff David and

Margot Stevenson;

Saturday the panels and workshops included the following; Niel Shell gave a presentation featuring his grandfather, Nathaniel Shilkret; Elizabeth McLeod gave a presentation on Amos 'n' Andy; Gary Yoggy saluted Orson Welles with William Herz, Jr., only surviving member of "The War of the Worlds;" a very lively 30th Anniversary show with alumni of 30 years filled the Sutton Room; Jimmy Lydon showed a Fox Movietone Special; The Gotham Players re-created "Frontier Gentleman" with Simon Jones; Gregg Oppenheimer remembered Lucille Ball; Anne Meara and Jerry Stiller stole the show on a re-creation of "The Joe Franklin Show;" The 9th Annual singers and Musicians panel followed with Sonny Curtis, Paul O'Keefe, Janet Cantor Gari and Roberto

Gari; a moving "Dr. Christian" with a taped introduction by Earl Hamner, Jr. rollowed; Saturday's events culminated with cocktails and buffet dinner for 296 people with another 156 coming for the day. After dinner Gary Yoggy directed "The Halls of Ivy" with Simon Jones; Anthony Tollin directed the second "Superman" episode; Arthur Anderson then directed an all-star "Plot to Overthrow Christmas;" Bart Curtis supplied the sound effects. Ed Clute with Sandy Stage supplied

the Music; Bill Siudmak was again our very capable engineer.

Besides the awards mentioned earlier, the Allen Rockford Award was presented to Robert Newman, Walt Mitchell and Mary Lou Wallace for their outstanding efforts in keeping radio and this convention alive. The Ray Stanich Award was given to Elizabeth McLeod for all the excellent writing he has done. A special Florence Williams award was given to Beverly Washburn. She has attended our convention for several years and have always been willing to help. Donations will be given to various organizations throughout the year.

Sunday morning found about 145 people having breakfast and listening to an entertaining and sometimes very hilarious panel consisting among others of Cliff Carpenter, Susan Gordon, Michael Gwynne, Jimmy Lydon, Noel Neill, Jean Rouverol, Hal Stone, Beverly Washburn It was hosted by

Anthony Tollin.

I again want to thank all the guests who were very gracious in granting interviews and giving of their

time to be with us.

DEALERS

Waterford Room

Bob Burnham
Steve Darnell
Bob Gardner
Radio Spirits
James (Sonny) Raley
Jerry Randolph
Steve Roth and Barbara Segal

DEALERS

Conference Rooms

Satellite Media Prod. (Fred Berney)...5

Larry Caffin...7

Eddie Cantor Appreciation Society (Brian Gari)...1

Don Ciccone...1

Stan Edwards...2

Brendan Faulkner...8

FOTR...1

David Noel Freedman...1

Mickey Freeman...6

Leo Gawroniak...3

Martin Grams, Jr....3

Jay Hickerson...1

Celeste Holm...4

Peggy King...6

Jim Main...8

Chuck McCann...4

Malachy McCourt...6

Ben Ohmart (Bear Media)...2

Frank Oviatt...8

Betsy Palmer...6

Cynthia Pepper...4

Rick Rogers...4

Soupy Sales...6

Anthony Tollin (Nostalgia Ventures)...1

Art Zimmerman...1

BIOS OF NEW CONVENTION GUESTS

BILL BRITTEN

Bill Britten succeeded Sandy Becker and Herb Sheldon as the third host/performer of WABC/WNEW/WNYW TV Ch. 5 NYC's long running comedy/variety kids tv show "Wonderama," once again working with a studio audience of kids. Britten would entertain and inform his viewers and studio audiences in between the reruns of old movie cartoons and comedies. Britten's version of "Wonderama" would also be the very first NYC based kids tv show to be pre-taped before a live audience.

He would add to his busy schedule, hosting other kids tv shows at Ch. 5: "The Looney Tunes Show," "Bugs Bunny Presents," and "Funny Tunes."

Britten would leave Ch. 5 at the end of the 1958 tv season and move to WPIX TV Ch. 11, where he would become the first NYC based entertainer to play "Bozo the Clown." He would MC "Bozo the Clown: and "Bozo's Big Top Circus" weekday evenings and afternoons on Ch. 11 from Monday, September 14, 1959 to Friday, June 2, 1963.

Britten's last ventures in kids to were serving as the host/performer of "The Cartoon Express" as "Engineer Smokey Bill: Saturday mornings on Ch. 11 from Saturday in 1962 and "Bozo's Cartoon Circus Lunchtime Show" weekday afternoons on Ch. 11 and "Peanut Butter and Jelly Time" in 1963-64.

Following the cancellation of "Bozo's Cartoon Circus Lunchtime Show," Bill Britten left kids TV for other ventures. He appeared in the original Broadway production of "The Man of LaMancha" with Richard Kiley and Robert Rounsville and "The Coolest Cat in Town" with Joey Faye and Gena Rowlands. He has also performed voiceovers for numerous radio and tv commercials and he has appeared in the movie version of "Fame" as a put upon school teacher who has to deal with a would-be student's ridiculous audition piece (in real life, Mr. Britten was a drama teacher at NYC's High School of Performing Arts). His only other on-camera venture on TV has been a guest appearance on an episode of PBS TV's "Square One TV" as an evil, vindictive magician who steals his ex-partner's rare ventriloquist figure.

DON CICCONE

From acetate to vinyl to CD, Don Ciccone's music has entertained us. From the days of The Critters ("Younger Girl" and "Mr Dieingly Sad" named in the "Top 100 Songs of all Time!"...WCBS Radio) through his days as one of Frankie Valli's world renowned 4 Seasons (over 50 gold records!, over 150 million records sold!) And still today (with the success of his new CD release, "Lost & Found," original songs of romance and wisdom), Don has enjoyed a lifetime of musical achievement in the record industry – a hit singer/songwriter with the distinction of having played an influential role in the direction of music in the recording industry.

ALEC CUMMING

Alec Cumming currently works for NBC Universal as a TV producer, and has over 20 years of experience in the TV industry, mainly as a promo writer/producer for NBC, USA, Sci Fi, The History Channel, A&E, etc. He also served as NBC's consultant/historian, and helped out the network extensively in preparation for its 75th Anniversary in 2001. He is also a musician and pop music historian.

ROBERT EASTON

The master of over 240 dialects and accents, Robert Easton is equally comfortable playing a country bumpkin, a German army officer, or a cockney scalawag. In addition, to a brilliant and diverse acting career, Easton is the world's premier dialect coach. The number of award winning actors he has worked with spans the length and breadth of Hollywood. From, Sir Lawrence Olivier and John Gielgud, to Tom Cruise and Nicholas Cage, Easton has helped generations of legendary stars learn accents and dialects.

Born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Robert Easton "Burke" moved to San Antonio, Texas at the age of one when his parents divorced. Raised by his mother, Mary, Easton quickly demonstrated an insatiable appetite for knowledge, and at the age of 14, his mother contacted the popular radio program, *Quiz Kids*, telling them that her son could answer all the questions. At the show's invitation, Easton and his mother traveled to Chicago for a tryout. Easton won a spot on the show and his high scores kept on air for

more than a year, until the show's mandatory retirement age of 15 ended his tenure.

In 1949, Easton decided to move to Los Angeles to continue his radio career. He quickly landed as a regular on *Fibber McGee* and *Molly, Our Miss Brooks* and *Gunsmoke*, where he played Chester's brother "Magnus Goode," a role he would later reprise on the television series. In all, Easton made over 1,000 radio appearances, and it was during this time that he began to develop different dialects.

Beginning with his first film *Undertow* in 1949, Easton made numerous film appearances including: *The Red Badge of Courage, Somebody Up There Likes Me, Voyage to the Bottom of the Sea, Paint Your Wagon,* and *Working Girl.* Easton's vast television career spans the history of television, beginning with *Playhouse 90* and *Hallmark Hall of Fame*, and including *The Red Skelton Show, The Bob Cummings Show, Burns & Allen, Rawhide, Wagon Train, The Munsters,* and *Alias Smith and Jones*.

Since Easton took on the job as the dialect coach to the stars, he has helped over 2,000 students learning every imaginable accent. Charleton Heston, Ben Kingsley, Gregory Peck, Al Pacino, Cher, and Helen Hunt have been among his students. He taught for six years in the U.S. C. Drama department, until his travel requirements made it impossible. Easton has flown around the world teaching accents on sets in far-flung locations.

BARRY FARBER

Barry Farber is one of America's legendary talk show hosts. His radio career began in New York City when William Safire, then assistant to Tex McCrary, hired Farber as a producer. Barry soon became a familiar and beloved voice on the Big Apple's airwaves, hosting his own shows on WINS, WOR, WMCA and WABC. Barry went national in 1990 and only a year later was named "Talk Show Host of the Year" by the National Association of Radio Talk Show Hosts.

One secret of Barry's enormous success is that he speaks in 26 tongues. A God-given gift for languages led him to teach himself Spanish, French, German, Italian, Portuguese, Indonesian, Yiddish, two dialects of Chinese and more. Such fluency came in handy in Havana as he covered the Cuban revolution, when he led Hungarians across the border to freedom after their revolution, and when he could speak Russian with Soviet jews from the Moscow synagogue beginning in 1956.

Barry's articles have appeared in the New York Times, Reader's Digest, and the Washington Post. Among books he has written are "Making People Talk," "How to Learn Any Language," "How to Conceal Stupidity," and his current bestseller "How to Not Make the Same Mistake Once."

SONNY FOX

Sonny Fox attended NYU and studied for a career in textiles. But an interest in the drama and radio department and a job with Allan Funt (of "Candid Microphone/Candid Camera" fame) sidetracked his plans. And he became a comedy scriptwriter for Funt's "Candid Microphone" radio series. Fox created situations for Funt's audience participation comedy show and learn about the flaws of mankind from the series. He also wrote radio scripts for Arch Oobler, "The Voice of America." From there, Fox became a war news correspondent and worked overseas during WWII and the Korean Police Action. Upon his return to the USA in the early 1950's. He contracted the heads of CBS TV News...in the hopes that he would become a TV news anchor. He didn't get the news anchor assignment. But he did win the job of hosting TV's first children's news magazine and travelogue. "The Finder!" on Educational TV station KETC in St. Louis, MO.

On Sunday morning, January 4, 1959. He became the fourth and most memorable host (next to Sandy Becker and Bob McCallister) of WNEW TV Ch. 5 NYC's long running, comedy/variety kids TV program: "Wonderrama!" Fox changed the format of the series to accommodate an educational/talk show where he introduced his viewers and studio audiences to craftmaking, hobbies seminars, dance lessons, English lessons recreations of the 1960 US Presidential primaries and elections, news reports and treks to places and events of interests.

He would serve as the associate producer for the Burbank, CA. version to Tom Snyder's "Tomorrow Show" and for Alan Landesburg TV Productions. Fox would eventually found his own TV production company and produce many TV series: including PBS TV's "Golden Age of Live TV Dramas," Taking My Turn" for PBS TV's "Great Performances" series and "Chuck McCann's Fun Stuff!" for KHJ TV Ch. 9 in Los Angeles, CA. In recent years, he has left TV producing and has served as a top exec for the TV advocacy group: "Population Communications International Inc.

DAVID NOEL FREEDMAN

He is the son of David Freedman, writer for Eddie Cantor. In his own right, he is a biblical scholar, "bookmaker" (author and editor), archeologist, advocate, and initiator of inter-faith cooperation. He has made numerous outstanding and creative contributions which illuminate and preserve a world heritage – the Hebrew Bible.

CELESTE HOLM

At age 17, Celeste moved to New York, where she honed her skills in Summer stock. At the age of nineteen, she landed a part in her first notable production, understudying Ophelia in Leslie Howard's national tour of *Hamlet*. Soon, lightening struck when Celeste found herself auditioning for Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne. Though she lost the part because she was too tall to fit the costume, Ms. Fontanne recognized Celeste's talent and recommended her to Teresa Helburn of the Theatre Guild. In no time at all, Ms Helburn had hired Celeste for her Broadway debut, in the role of Mary L. in William Saroyan's 1939 Pulitzer Prize winning play, *The Time of Your Life*. Though she continued working steadily in the theatre, it wasn't until 1943 that Celeste became a true star. She stopped the show in *Oklahoma* on opening night when, as Ado Annie, she broke into *I Can't Say No*. And so Celeste, who had been working and struggling for years in the theatre, became the proverbial overnight sensation. One year later, she starred in the title role of *Bloomer Girl*, a new musical written just for her.

She pursued roles of substance and, with the support of her good friend and mentor Moss Hart, was chosen to play the role of Ann Detry in her fourth film, *Gentlemen's Agreement*. This was a serious and controversial movie addressing anti-Semitism in America. Celeste received the Best Supporting Actress Oscar and the Golden Globe. Celeste was now both a leading musical theatre singer and dancer and an award-winning serious actress.

Celeste moved back to New York. And though she continued to do movies throughout the fifties, including such hits as *High Society* and *The Tender Trap* (both with Frank Sinatra), Celeste from then on made New York her home. Celeste has performed in numerous television shows, including: the Fairy Godmother in Rogers and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*; Mrs. Warren Harding in *Backstairs at the White House* (Emmy nomination); John Cheever's *Shady Hill Kidnaping*; *Falcon Crest*; *Promised Land*; *The Beat*; and most recently, *The Whoopi Show*.

Appointed by President Ronald Reagan to the National Arts Council, Celeste has also served as chairman of and spokes person for, the National Association of Mental Health. For over fifty years, Celeste has worked to raise money for UNICEF

PEGGY KING

Vocalist Peggy King burst on the national scene in the mid-fifties by winning the <u>Downbeat</u> Best New Singer Award for 1955-56; the <u>Billboard</u> Best New Singer Award for 1955-56; and the Golden Apple <u>Photoplay</u> Award as Best New Artist of 1956. She has sung with the bands of Charlie Spivak, Ralph Flanagan, and Ray Anthony and appeared in such world famous locations as the Blue Note (NY), LaVie en Rose (NY), Copacabana (NY), Mr. Kelly's (Chicago), Coconut Grove (Los Angeles), and Harrah's (Lake Tahoe).

In 1957, Ms King appeared with Joel Grey, Cyril Richard and Celeste Holm in the *Hallmark Hall of Fame* production of "Jack and the Bean Stalk" and with Tab Hunter, Basil Rathbone and Dick Button in the NBC Producer's Showcase broadcast of "Hans Brinker of the Silver Skates." During the summer of 1960, she toured in "Meet Me in St. Louis" adapted from the Judy Garland MGM Musical with 9 new songs written especially for her. She has made appearances on the *Mel Torme Show, Jack Paar Show, Steve Allen Show, Today* (with Dave Garroway and with Hugh Downs) *Tonight* (with Steve Allen and with Johnny Carson) *Merv Griffin Show*, and *Mike Douglas Show*.

In 1955 Ms. King was nominated for an Emmy as best female singer and in 1958 she co-hosted the Emmy Awards Show with Danny Kaye and Danny Thomas. She also has her own star on the Hollywood "Walk of Fame."

After a self-imposed hiatus of twenty years in which she devoted her time to her family life, Peggy returned to her career in 1984 with an appearance with Peter Nero and the Philly Pops at the Academy of Music. She followed with an engagement at the jazz club Michael's Pub in New York City thereby launching her career number two. She also sings with the Philadelphia Boys Choir and has done some appearances with the Philadelphia Orchestra's concerts for children.

When she is not singing. Peggy sits on the boards on the Hero Scholarship Fund and the Philadelphia Singers. Her latest CD for Stash is called *Oh, What a Memory We Made, Tonight* ...a song title from the lyrics her friend Johnny Mercer wrote for her. On a *Fresh Air* show for Public Radio, Terry Gross said, "Peggy King is one of the foremost interpreters of American popular music. She should be declared a National treasure."

ROD McBRIEN

Rod McBrien is one of the premier writers/director/producers of American music today. His company, Rod McBrien Productions, is a highly regarded award-winning full service music supplier specializing in creating and producing music for commercial recordings, feature films, radio and TV advertising and special events.

Rod's career has covered a lot of ground. In his first life – he was a performer. He started writing and recording songs while still in high school and was a featured performer – as well as writer/producer – for such inimitable acts as "The Tornadoes," "The Long Island Sounds," "The Valrays," "The Eastern Scene," "Pebbles & Shells," "Sage," "The Children of Prague," "The Astral

Projection," "Salt Water Taffy," "The Goggles," "Smiling Faces," "Joy," "The Cantina Band," "Stark & McBrien," "The Major League Singers," and others.

But of all his credits, McBrien is most proud of his national tributes, notably those honoring the men and women of America's Armed Forces. In 1993, he wrote and produced the theme music for the dedication of the Vietnam Women's Memorial. He was called upon by The United States Air Force in 1997 to commemorate their 50th Anniversary in song. And in that same year he was commissioned to write and produce the theme music for the dedication of the Women's Memorial.

MALACHY McCOURT

Malachy McCourt career as an actor took him to Broadway and Off-Broadway and regional theatres in plays such as "Mass Appeal," "Da," "The Hostage," "Inherit the Wind," "Carousel," and "Translations." The soap operas such as "Ryan's Hope," "Search for Tomorrow," "One Life to Live," and "All My Children" were also a good source of work and sustenance as were the movies "Molly Maguires," "She's the One," "The Devil's Own," "Green Card," and TV movies such as "You Can't Go Home Again" and "The Dain Curse." Due to a heavy schedule of writing, book signings and public appearances McCourt had to take a sabbatical from the acting trade but is now back after completing five movies "Happy Hour," "Guru of Sex," "God and Generals," and "Ash Wednesday" plus a running part in the HBO prison series "Oz."

In the early seventies he was one of the first radio talk show hosts on WMCA and also worked at WOR, WNYC and WABC. He was a frequent guest on the "Tonight Show," Merve Griffin and Tom Snyder shows and most recently he was a guest on Conan O'Brien and the "Late, Late Show" on CBS

Malachy has had articles published in many periodicals including "New York Newsday," "National Geographic," "Conscience Magazine" and "New York Times."

CHUCK McCANN

The son of a jazz bandleader and arranger, Val McCann, comic actor Chuck McCann began his show business career as a child actor on a New York City based radio show. He would later appear on radio show re-creations that were written, produced and recorded by actor/scriptwriter and radio/TV historian, Ron Lackman. The radio show re-creations were done for local NYC high schools.

During the late 1940's and into the 1950's, he performed a stand up act consisting of pantomimes, impressions, songs and jokes at numerous New York City, Long Island and New Jersey nightclubs. He would also perform his act on many well-known TV variety shows. McCann took a brief hiatus from nightclub and TV work to study drama stage and theater craft with The Pasadena Playhouse. He appeared in many well-known Shakespearean plays, including a memorable performance in *Twelfth Night* as Sir Toby Belch. He returned to New York City where he continued to perform in the clubs and on TV variety shows.

In 1950 he met puppeteer, Paul Ashley, who hired McCann as his assistant. From 1950 to 1967, McCann and Ashley performed with their puppets on several TV shows. McCann also hosted local TV comedy/variety puppet shows.

McCann would also do character parts on numerous TV series and movies without the puppets and do voiceovers for radio/TV commercials and for movie and TV cartoon series. He provided a serious acting performance in the movie, *Heart is a Lonely Hunter* (1968). In 1971 he collaborated with his friend, Harry Hurwitz, in the movie, *The Projectionist*. McCann has appeared in many TV commercials impersonating comic legend, Oliver Hardy. He also cut two comedy recordings, *The First Family* with Vaughn Meader and the late Bob McFadden and *Sing Along With Jack*.

McCann continues to do voiceovers for cartoons and commercials and he has recently appeared in a two-man stage show with Tim Conway.

DICK MONDA

His journey began, August 10, 1940 in Cleveland, Ohio. Due to his mother's drive, both his sister and he began developing skills in song and dance. After many radio appearances in Cleveland they re-located to Hollywood, CA. where they further honed their skills and performed on stage with Frank Sinatra, Danny Kaye, Abbott and Costello and Dorothy Dandridge at the tail end of Vaudeville. The next step was films including, "The Glass Wall," with Gloria Grahame and Vittorio Gasman, "Go for Broke," with Van Johnson and in 1953 a starring role in, "The Eddie Cantor Story," playing Eddie Cantor as a boy. He performed six songs and one dance sequence in the film. Three years later he had a featured role in, "The Midnight Story," starring Tony Curtis, Gilbert Roland and Marisa Pavan. Although he continued acting in plays and films his interests were turning to academics, piano and song writing. Eventually his songs were recorded by, Tom Jones, Gary Puckett and the Union Gap, Kenny Rogers, Engelbert Humperdinck, Frankie Laine, Sammy Davis, Jr., Glenn Yarbrough, Jerry Wallace, Jane Olivor, The Standells, Syl Johnson, Z.Z. Hill, Ted Taylor, Papa John Chreach, Wolfman Jack, The Righteous Brothers, Rufus, The Chi-Lites, The Magic Lanterns, Carl Carlton, Ringo Starr and many others totaling around six hundred recordings.

RICK ROGERS

Rick Rogers is a professional entertainer from California who specializes in impersonations of Eddie Cantor and will be starring in our re-creation of a 1938 Eddie Cantor radio show on Saturday.

LESLIE SHREVE

Leslie Shreve, in addition to having performed extensively on stage and television, lists in her credits that she worked with "dolphins, snakes, monkeys, macaws, elephants, tarantulas, lions, hawks, turtles, ravens and camels." Her television work includes such popular "soaps" *All My Children* and *Another World*. She has also announced the New York Emmy Award Galas, the International Film and Television Festival and the STEVIES. Ms. Shreve also filmed an award-winning children's series that was nationally syndicated: 270 half-hours and 6 hour-long specials shot on location throughout the USA

Her stage performances include featured roles in *Life Begins at 8:40, Her Soldier Boy, The Pajama Game, Bells Are Ringing, The Music Man,* and *Oklahoma*.

MICHAEL SHOSHANI

Michael Shoshani is the world's formost authority on the NBC chimes. He has written a definitive history/analysis of radio's most famous trademark, "Welcome to the NBC Chimes Museum." This article together with photos and additional information and an extensive bibliography can be found at www.nbcchimes. Info/.

ALLEN SWIFT

Allen Swift went to the Catskills of Upstate New York where in his late teens, he made his debut as a stand up entertainer. Performing for hotel customers in "The Borscht Belt." Swift also found time to write produce and perform on the many dramatic radio shows that were being broadcast in NYC and in many of NYC's most popular night clubs. His radio and stand up career was interrupted by his serving in the US Army Air Corps during WWII. Upon his return to NYC following the war. He continued to write, produce and perform on radio drama shows and in nightclubs. He also did a stint at the mecca of Broadway musicals and vaudeville: "The Palace Theater" in the 1950's when Judy Garland played "The Palace." But he became dissatisfied with the unacceptable atmosphere of the clubs and tried to find another venue for his talents. He finally found that venue when he was invited to join the cast of CBS TV's and Robert Q. Lewis "Robert Q. Lewis TV Show." He appeared in sketches and sang some songs with Mr. Lewis and other members of the cast. It was during this time that Ira Stadlin changed his name to Allen Swift (He took the name from Fred Allen and Jonathan Swift.) Swift performed on the "Robert Q. Lewis Show" for a few years and also did some voice overs for radio and TV commercials. In 1953, he would leave the "Robert Q. Lewis Show" and join the cast of "Howdy Doody." Swift would not only utilize his talents as a comic/character actor and mimic. He would also write the scripts, perform magic tricks and manipulate the puppets. He would also collaborate on the writting of one song for the show with "Howdy's" first head comedy writer and songwriter: Ed Kean: "Freddie The Mistreated Teddy Bear!" Swift would also serve as a puppeteer on the syndicated kids TV puppet series: "The Adventures of Blinky" with Doris Brown, Donald Soames, Lucy Emmrick and Paul Ashley.

Swift would continue to do voiceovers for radio/TV commercials and for numerious TV and movie cartoon series. He would also write, produce, direct and perform in plays and musicals in summer stock, off-Broadway and Broadway theater. Including a memorable turn in the critically acclaimed dramatic production "Checking Out!" as embittered ex Yiddish stage actor; "Morris Appelbaum." Swift would cut two children's records as "Captain Allen" (One with comic/character actress/mimic and singer: Mae Quesnel for Cabot Records (in 1957) and Popeye's Favorite Sea Shanties!" (with the musical team of Bill Simon and the Crew(for RCA Camden Children's Records in 1960). His second children's recording: "Popeye's Favorite Sea Shanties!" was nominated for a grammy award. His son, Lewis J. Stadlin has become one of the most successful comic/character actors/singers and mimics in the theaters, the movies and on TV.

NAN WARREN

A child actress in Philadelphia, she was a regular on the "Horn and Hardart Children's Hour," along with "Dolly Dimples McVeigh." It was a program of singing, dancing (people could hear the taps) and dialogue, and a real favorite on Sunday mornings.

She also appeared with Uncle Wip in programs which included the singer, Eddie Fisher

After her success in Philadelphia, she went to New York City to audition for the Saturday morning network radio show, "Let's Pretend." As a "Let's Pretend" regular, she auditioned with Eddie Cantor, Kate Smith along with her manager, Ted Mack, and with Rudy Vallee. As a result, she appeared on these popular radio shows in New York City, whenever a child was called for in the script.

Her audition with Eddie Cantor was at the Warwick Hotel in Philadelphia. Ethel Merman rode on the elevator with her when she went up to his suite for the audition. Merman's words to her as she got out of the elevator on her floor, were.. "Good luck, kid," in her inimitable voice. After her audition, Cantor agreed to use her on his radio show, and he said she'd be a good actress at 5, 15, and 50!

These bios have been prepared by <u>Gary Yoggy</u> from information provided by our guests. In some cases the material had to be edited due to limitations on space.

We have had many panels and discussions about Orson Welles here at Friends Of Old Time Radio. Orson was, after all, one of the most dynamic figures in The Golden Age Of Radio. "The War Of The Worlds" alone was enough to earn him an important place in broadcasting history. Mercury Theatre On The Air programs we have re-created include "Dracula" (1990) and "Treasure Island" (1996).

William Shakespeare's "Julius Caesar" was the Mercury's first production. It opened on Broadway in November 1937, and this Saturday we will re-create it as closely as we can, as it was done on the CBS network on September 11, 1938.

Many of us read Shakespeare in high school, and more often than not our eyes glazed, the yawns came, and we wondered why we had to listen to, and sometimes act out all that old-fashioned stuff.

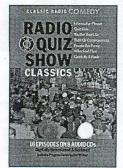
There are only a few of us old Mercuryites left, whom I will introduce on Saturday the 21st, but Edgar Russell III, the Producer and I have gathered the best radio actors we could find to join them for what I promise you is one of The Bard Of Avon's most exciting plays. It's based on history, and once you tune your ears to some of the Elizabethan speech you will easily follow the story. As one newspaper said about the film "Jaws" ... you won't doze.

Arthur Anderson



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Includes Night Beat -4/17/1950, 8/21/1950, 5/18/1951, 8/7/1952; Rogers of the Gazette -7/8/1953, 7/15/1953; Deadline Mystery -8/10/1947; San Francisco Final -7/26/1954; Big Story -10/1/1947, 1/7/1948; Bright Star -10/23/1952, 11/13/1952; Casey, Crime Photographer -3/30/1947, 9/4/1947; Ford Theater -5/9/1948.





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Frees, Jeanette Nolan and many more.
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Girl From Kansas - 6/05/1950, Old Home Week
- 9/04/1950, The Hunted Becomes the Hunter
- 9/11/1950, A Case of Butter 9/25/1950, Kenny
Day, Amnesia Case - 10/06/1950, The Man with
the Red Hair - 8/21/1952, Ellen (Bomb on the
Plane) - 9/04/1952



4 Shows/4 CDs \$16.95 with Program Guide by Eugene Bergmann (author Excelsior You Fathead!)

JEAN SHEPHERD: Don't Be A Leaf

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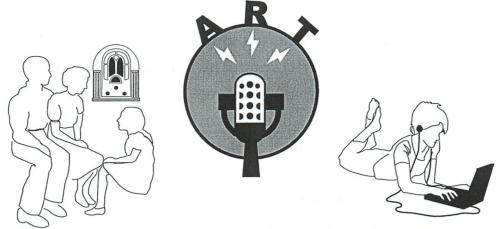
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In addition to ART's local actors, we shared company with our beloved OTR Veterans: Jean Rouverol Butler, Cliff Carpenter, Ivan Cury, Esther Geddes McVey, Kevin O'Morrison, Dave and Joan Parker.

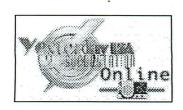
Recording was done at Screenplay, Inc. in Seattle, WA.

We recorded two audio dramas, including a new adaptation of *Cyrano de Bergerac*, with Cliff Carpenter as Cyrano. We also gave a new voice to *The Whistler* episode: "The Necklace Was Incidental."

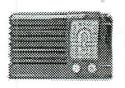
Our other plays were ART Original Works: **Second Strike of Lightning** (a WWII romance), **Talk the Talk** (done as an episode of **Quiet Please**), and **Windshield Chiaroscuro** (a brief SF tale).

Save This Date For Next Year: September 15-16, for ART's Radio Studio 2007. It'll be grand!

For more information, please contact Joy Jackson at JJLjackson@aol.com or check our website www.AmericanRadioTheater.org.



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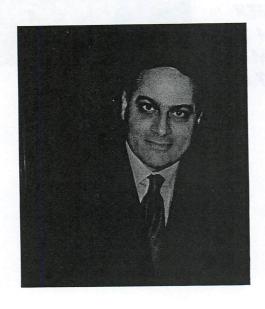
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